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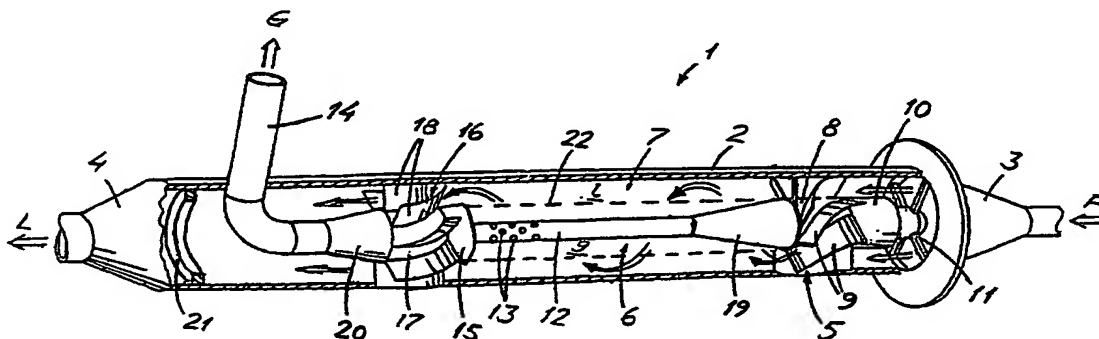
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(54) Title: AN APPARATUS FOR SEPARATION OF A FLUID FLOW, ESPECIALLY INTO A GAS PHASE AND A LIQUID PHASE



(57) Abstract: An apparatus for separation of a fluid flow flowing through a pipeline into a light fraction and a heavier fraction, in which the fluid flow is set into rotation so that it is separated into a central zone (6) essentially containing the light fraction, and an outer annular zone (7) essentially containing the heavier fraction, and from which the fluid in the central zone and the fluid in the outer zone are discharged via respective outlet means (12-14 resp. 4). The apparatus comprises an essentially tubular casing (2) arranged to constitute a section of the pipeline proper, a spin element (5) for rotation of the fluid flow being located at the upstream end of the casing (2), and the outlet means for the central zone comprising a discharge element (12) arranged downstream of the spin element (5) and having entry openings (13) for discharge of the light fraction and possibly entrained heavier fraction from the central zone (6). Further, the apparatus comprises a control separator (25) connected to the discharge element (12) and arranged to separate entrained heavier fraction from the light fraction, and a control system comprising a level transmitter (42) for indication of the level of separated heavier fraction in the separator, and a level control unit (43) connected to the level transmitter (42) and to a drain valve (40, 41) in a separator outlet (28) for the light fraction, the level control unit in cooperation with the valve seeing that the separated heavier fraction in the separator (25) is kept at a constant level corresponding to the maximally allowed, entrained quantity of the heavier fraction in the light fraction.

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